RESOLUTION NO. 02-10

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA SUPPORTING THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS PROPOSED BY MR. ALEX PENELAS, MAYOR OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FLORIDA

WHEREAS, 30% of the children who enter school are already behind intellectually, socially, emotionally, or physically; and

WHEREAS, numerous studies have substantiated the success of children who participate in high quality pre-kindergarten programs; and

WHEREAS, a universal statewide pre-kindergarten program will ensure that every child develops the social, emotional, and cognitive skills needed for school success and success later in life; and

WHEREAS, states such as Georgia, New York, Oklahoma, and North Carolina have invested in statewide pre-kindergarten programs; and

WHEREAS, research tells us that for every dollar invested in the early years of a child's life, seven dollars are saved in special education, remedial programs, juvenile justice and governmental assistance; and

WHEREAS, as stated in Mayor Penelas' Universal Pre-kindergarten Whitepaper, the intent is that establishing a statewide pre-kindergarten program should not be to the detriment of any existing state programming. The state should exhibit its commitment to the public's mandate for pre-kindergarten education by identifying a new funding source.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 02-10, submitted by Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, supporting the Florida Constitutional Amendment proposed by Mr. Alex Penelas, Mayor of Miami-Dade County, Florida, for the implementation of universal prekindergarten programs.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

Secretary